

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

On page 1, line 4, --now U.S. Patent No. 6,672,872,-- has been inserted after "2002,". In line ⁵~~3~~, --, now U.S. Patent No. 6,655,961-- has been inserted after "2001".

JDK
5/25

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not show or fairly suggest a dental implant comprising a body having apical and coronal ends and a length between the ends, wherein the coronal end is configured such that the length of the body is greatest on the lingual side and least on the buccal side where the length continuously decreases from the lingual side to the buccal side.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cary E. O'Connor whose telephone number is 571-272-4715. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:00-3:30.